

Information Technology Resource Management Council (ITRMC)
Meeting Minutes
(Approved by Council August 21, 2002)

April 24, 2002

8:35 to 11:30 a.m., East Conference Room, Joe R. Williams Building
700 West State Street, Boise, Idaho

The April 24, 2002 meeting of the Information Technology Resource Management Council (ITRMC) was held in the East Conference Room of the Joe R. Williams Building, 700 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME

Pam Ahrens, Council Chairman, who welcomed members and guests present, called the meeting to order.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Designates Present:

Mrs. Pam Ahrens, Department of Administration
Mr. Dwight Bower, Idaho Transportation Department
Senator Hal Bunderson, Idaho Senate
Mr. Ken Harward, Assoc. of Idaho Cities
Dr. Marilyn Howard, Department of Education
Mr. Karl Kurtz, Department of Health and Welfare
Senator Bert Marley, Idaho Senate
Representative Elmer Martinez, Idaho House
Mr. Roger Parks, JR Simplot Company
Mr. John Peay, Idaho Supreme Court
Mr. Gary Stivers, State Board of Education
Mr. J.D. Williams, State Controller
Mr. Steve Wilson, Idaho State Tax Commission
*Mr. Dan Hawkins, Department of Education
*Assistant Director Sandra DeKlotz, Idaho State Police

*Designate

Absent Members:

Representative Lee Gagner, Idaho House
Mrs. Mary Liz Jones, College of Southern Idaho
Colonel E.D. Strickfaden, Idaho State Police

Others Present:

Mr. Brad Alvaro, Department of Correction	Ms. Emily Gales, ITRMC Staff
Mr. Nathan Bentley, ITRMC Staff	Mr. Rick Gerrard, Syringa Networks
Mr. Gregory Cade, Idaho State Tax Commission	Mr. Bob Hunter, Information Technology Group (ITG)
Ms. Carla Casper, DITCS, Department of Administration	Mr. Kevin Iwersen, DITCS, Dept. of Administration
Ms. Dena Duncan, DITCS, Department of Administration	Ms. Cindy Lou McDonald, Idaho State Tax Commission
Mr. Jon Eckerle, DITCS, Department of Administration	Mr. Jeff Shinn, Division of Financial Management
Mr. Rich Elwood, ITRMC Staff	Mr. Scott Somerhalder, Access Idaho
Mr. Don Fournier, ITRMC Staff	Mr. Rob Spofford, Department of Water Resources
Ms. Liza Fox, Idaho Transportation Department	Mr. Charles Wright, Department of Health and Welfare

MOTION TO APPROVE FEBRUARY 20, 2002 MINUTES

Kurtz moved and Marley seconded a motion to approve the February 20, 2002 ITRMC Meeting Minutes, and the motion passed unanimously.

IDAHO STATE TAX COMMISSION

(Refer to slide presentation: Proposed Major Project, Geographic Information Systems IT Plan, Idaho State Tax Commission)

Nathan Bentley, ITRMC Staff, introduced Cindy Lou McDonald – GIS Manager, Idaho State Tax Commission (STC). He explained McDonald would be presenting a project proposal. Ms. McDonald provided background as to how the idea of the project was initiated. She then described some wonderful possibilities that could come about as a result of implementing the geographic information systems (GIS) portion of the STC's five-year plan proposal, such as determining the impact of proposed legislation on irrigated cropland or on residences within one mile of federal land.

Why the State Tax Commission?

- The STC is in a unique position to collect and standardize digital parcel data. Its employees write, train, and support standard software for appraising, assessing, or parcel mapping in 39 of 44 Idaho counties.
- To make the GenTax® data usable in a GIS, an address engine to assign an 'x' and a 'y' location to every address on every tax return would need to be built. Also needed would be a pipeline to collect and distribute land parcels in the state.

5-Year Plan

- Two main spatial focuses of the proposal: 1) address data and 2) land ownership, or parcel, data.
 - The first year would be spent engineering the blueprints of the project, with special focus on the parcel data, which was needed by federal, tribal, state, and local governments, financial institutions, and private entities.

Partnerships

- The STC aimed to pool the vast resources of stakeholders in an effort to build a perpetually funded mechanism to serve the parcel data in a manner that would streamline government and business practices.

McDonald described **data challenges** and **possible benefits** of the proposal. She was charged with investigating state support for the proposed project. In one year, she had gained conceptual support from a number of different groups, including Idaho county assessors and the Idaho Geospatial Committee. There was also general excitement and concern due to the widespread possibility of failure. Additionally, the following **key issues** had been identified: privacy, sales and ownership of data, costs and benefits, liability, distribution, and data accuracy and standards.

In conclusion, McDonald pointed out ways in which an investment in a GIS project to maintain statewide digital parcels and addresses would reap benefits for the STC and the State of Idaho.

Discussion points:

- Once built, this basic data set could be used for economic development purposes.
 - Idaho **Senator Hal Bunderson** mentioned that state coordination efforts were beginning, and would be addressed by the Legislative Interim Committee on E-Commerce.
- To facilitate the development of health resources in economically deprived areas, the data set could possibly be used to correlate income, as well.
- Cost of implementation. Per federal-level discussion, it was estimated that it could cost as much as \$20 million per state (over an undetermined period of time) to build the data sets. Preliminary cost evaluation for Idaho would be determined within the first year of the project. Senator Bunderson noted that some Idaho counties and state agencies had already invested large sums of money in areas related to this proposal. It was hoped that the cost would be spread out among all entities using the data, including the federal government and private sector.

- The GIS community felt that funding issues should be addressed at the commissioner level.
- For two years, establishing a one-stop geospatial center had been one of 250 top priorities of the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Since September 11, 2001, this initiative had escalated to the number one priority of the OMB, as it is believed this data set is extremely critical to national security.
- Value in consulting with other states that had already embarked on this project, and whether Idaho could possibly enter into a joint venture with other states.
 - OpenGIS® Specifications, Open GIS Consortium, Inc. (Open Geospatial Interoperability Specification Consortium, or OGC – an international industry consortium aimed at growing interoperability for technologies involving spatial information and location.). By sitting on a steering committee of the OGC (at the national level), Nathan is able to gain knowledge of how to standardize data sets on a national level.
 - Idaho's GIS community was looking at what other states were doing i.e. Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Oregon, and Washington.
 - The **Washington-Idaho pilot** covers Spokane and Pend Oreille Counties in Washington State, and Kootenai and Bonner Counties in Idaho. This pilot effort would provide an example for advancing **The National Map** model across the Pacific Northwest. (The National Map, a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Mapping Program, will be a seamless, continuously maintained set of public domain geographic base information that will serve as a foundation for integrating, sharing, and using other data easily and consistently.)
 - The USGS sent a group of Idaho GIS professionals to Portland, Oregon (November 2001), to discuss coordination among states in the northwest region, among other issues.
- Public/private partnership. **Roger Parks**, JR Simplot Company, suggested the STC market to the industry community – focusing on companies that would benefit from the project – to possibly obtain private sector funding.
 - It was anticipated that leveraging resources/collaborating would minimize funding requests to the legislature.
- Possibility of obtaining federal grants. At that time, there was no federal grant process in place for rural areas.
 - A federal Financing Solutions Team was in place. This Team was charged with aiding states in the identification of potential funding sources, such as grants, for the I-Team Geospatial Information Initiative. (The I-Team Initiative was established by the OMB as an opportunity for states to present plans of how basic framework data themes are being collected and shared.)
 - There was brief discussion regarding a statewide high desert project being carried out jointly by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and Idaho colleges and universities.

ITRMC UPDATE

Chairman Ahrens introduced and welcomed **Representative Elmer Martinez**, recently appointed to the Idaho House, as the newest member of ITRMC.

Rich Elwood, ITRMC Staff, addressed the Council.

NASCIO AWARD

While attending the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) annual mid-year conference (Denver, April 4-7), Rich Elwood (Statewide IT Coordinator) accepted the organization's 2001 Recognition Award in the category of *IT Professional Recruitment and Retention* on behalf of the Department of Administration and the Division of Professional-Technical Education. This award reflected the ITRMC-promoted ITTP online training coordination application. 117 nominations were evaluated from 30 states.

ITRMC-RELATED LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 1461

SB1461, co-sponsored by Senator Bunderson and Representative Lee Gagner, clarifies the statute that created ITRMC (67-5745C), strengthening the oversight role of the Council.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 56

HCR56 urges state agencies to take certain action to ensure that the blind and visually impaired have non-visual information technology access. Prior to its adoption, the ITRMC Staff was developing a policy, standard, and guideline that address ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance. All three documents, which deal with Web Publishing, were on the agenda for review and approval (see below).

ITRMC IT POLICIES, ENTERPRISE STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

Rich Elwood continued, with the review of ITRMC IT policies, enterprise standards, and guidelines.

Policy 5010, Standard 5120, Guideline G310: Web Publishing

Policy 5010, Web Publishing, requires that all web pages developed for/by the state be ADA-compliant. Mr. Elwood described other requirements of the policy, if adopted. Appropriateness of Web content was outlined in the policy, as well as Standard 5120 and Guideline G310, also dealing with Web publishing.

Elwood introduced **Jon Eckerle** (Webmaster, Department of Administration), who played a key role in the development of the Web publishing policy and standards. Also involved were additional state Webmasters, Marlene Mussler-Wright (Director of Creative Content, Access Idaho), and others.

This is a major step forward in satisfying the requirements of HCR56, said Elwood. The documents clearly describe the state's role in the management of state Web sites, and identify the processes and procedures (including state and federal resources) available to state agencies and others to ensure compliance.

Discussion points:

- In answer to an inquiry from **Dwight Bower** (Idaho Transportation Department), Elwood advised these Web publishing standards were minimum requirements, and could be expanded to a greater degree by state agencies, as with all ITRMC standards.
- According to **Steve Wilson**, Idaho State Tax Commission, no unfavorable comments were received from state IT managers regarding the Web publishing policy, standards, and guidelines.
- It was decided that language with regard to "specific, single issue, political materials" (Policy 5010, Web Content, 2nd bullet) would be changed to the following:

"Specific, single issue, political materials that have not been prepared by the appropriate state agency;"

MOTION TO APPROVE POLICY 5010, Standard 5120, & Guideline G310 FOR ADOPTION

Williams moved and Bunderson seconded a motion to adopt ITRMC IT Policy 5010, Web Publishing, with amended language under 'Web Content'; ITRMC IT Enterprise Standard 5120, Web Publishing; and ITRMC IT Enterprise Guideline G310, Web Publishing, and the motion passed unanimously.

Policy 2010 – Information Technology Planning Process (*revision*)

Policy 2010 was modified to include the sentence *"An agency's use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) must be included as part of its IT Plan"* under 'Policy', as GIS was a key component of the IT process. Also included was specific reference to *"Information Technology Enterprise Guideline G110 - Agency IT Plan."*

Discussion: In response to a question from Senator Bunderson, Nathan Bentley advised the terms 'geographic' and 'geospatial' are basically interchangeable in that they both refer to the same concept. However, 'geographic' is generally used when referring to software, whereas 'geospatial' is used when referring to data.

Standard 2100 – Operating System (O/S) (*revision*) (6-month review)

Steve Wilson mentioned that he had received no negative responses from state IT managers with regard to standards 2100, 2110, or 2510.

Standard 2100 was modified to list *Microsoft Windows XP* as an approved product. Also, verbiage under 'Technical and Implementation Considerations' was changed to remove references to Windows XP as a pending product.

Standard 2110 – Office Suite (*revision*) (6-month review)

Standard 2110 was modified to recognize *Microsoft Windows XP* as an approved product. As Microsoft had dropped active support for *Microsoft Office 97*, the product was removed from the list of 'Approved Product(s)'. Also, agencies were encouraged to consider migrating to Office XP, rather than Office 2000.

Standard 2510 – Network Operating System (6-month review, no revision)

Upon six-month review by the ITRMC Staff, no changes were recommended for Standard 2510.

MOTION TO APPROVE REVISIONS TO POLICY 2010, AND STANDARDS 2100 & 2110

Kurtz moved and Bower seconded a motion to approve revisions to ITRMC IT Policy 2010, Information Technology Planning Process; ITRMC IT Enterprise Standard 2100, Operating System (O/S); and ITRMC IT Enterprise Standard 2110, Office Suite, and the motion passed unanimously.

Policy 3020 – Connectivity and Transport Protocols (*revision*)

Don Fournier, ITRMC Staff, addressed the Council. Policy 3020 was revised to make it consistent with the existing documentation structure of ITRMC IT policies. **Enterprise standards** were removed from the policy and placed into separate standard documents – **Network Connectivity & Transport: 3510, Transport; 3520, Local Area Network (LAN); 3530, Wireless LAN; 3540, LAN Backbone; and 3550, Structured Cabling.**

Discussion: Mr. Fournier advised that the Division of Public Works was involved in the review of the structured cabling standards. The draft document was also distributed to the Idaho Association of Counties (IAC), but little input was received. Chairman Ahrens asked **Ken Harward**, Association of Idaho Cities, to determine how to most effectively distribute information to the counties for review, noting that statewide infrastructure is key. **John Peay**, Idaho Supreme Court, mentioned that, with the exception of around 12 of 44 Idaho counties, there was really no technical expertise at the county level, due to lack of funding. Further, a fair amount of county IT work was contracted, with the goal of solving the immediate problem, rather than looking at potential long-term applications. For those who do not understand the terms within a standard, he suggested instructions be included therein. Mr. Peay also suggested that model guidelines geared toward non-technical individuals be prepared for training and informational purposes. Chairman Ahrens suggested this issue of statewide infrastructure be discussed with the Idaho Council for Technology in Learning and the Division of Building Safety.

Standard 3100 Network Services – Internet/Intranet Web Server (*revision*) (6-month review)

Primary concerns addressed during the revision of Standard 3100 had to do with security concerns for Internet Information Server (IIS) Web servers. Minimal version level version 5.x of Microsoft IIS software was recommended. Under Technical and Implementation Consideration, the installation of the Microsoft "Cumulative Patch for Internet Information Services" for all ISS installations was also recommended.

Fournier thanked state agencies, higher education, and the Department of Administration for many good comments and suggestions regarding Standard 3100.

Standard 3110 Network Services – Internet/Intranet Web Browser (*revision*) (6-month review)

Many concerns with Standard 3110 dealt with security and vulnerabilities that occur at the Web browser level. Recommended was the update of Microsoft Internet Explorer to version 5.x, and installation of a security patch. Internet Explorer version 6.x was acknowledged under 'Emerging Trends and Architectural Directions'.

Standard 3120 Network Services – Data/Network Integrity (*revision*) (6-month review)

Minor changes to Standard 3120 included a name change (from *Tripwire for Routers* to *Tripwire for Routers and Switches*); and *Tripwire 2.2.1 for Linux* was removed as an approved product, but could be added at a later date.

Standard 3210 Security – Network Intrusion Detection System (*revision*) (6-month review)

Standard 3210 was revised to acknowledge a company name change – ‘Intrusion.Com’ is now simply ‘Intrusion’. *Intrusion SecureNet Provider*, a management platform that allows for management of all Intrusion devices, was also added as an approved standard.

Standard 3220 Security – Virtual Private Network (*revision*) (6-month review)

Changes to Standard 3220 include a product name change – *Check Point VPN-1 Gateway* to *Check Point VPN-1* – and removal of *Check Point VPN-1 SecuRemote* from the ‘Approved Products’ list, as the functionality of it is now included with the product *Check Point VPN-1 SecureClient*.

Standard 3200 Security – Firewall (6-month review, no revision)

Upon six-month review by the ITRMC Staff, no changes were recommended for Standard 3200.

Discussion: In response to an inquiry from Steve Wilson, Fournier advised that the removal/absence of a reference to a product i.e. removal of the reference to Linux in Standard 3120, did not preclude an agency from testing or piloting some versions before they actually became standards.

MOTION TO APPROVE POLICY 3020 REVISIONS / ADOPT STANDARDS 3510-3550, 3100, 3110, 3120, 3210 & 3220
Wilson moved and Parks seconded a motion to approve revisions to ITRMC IT Policy 3020, Connectivity and Transport Protocols; ITRMC IT Enterprise [Network Services] Standards 3100, Internet/Intranet Web Server and 3110, Internet/Intranet Web Browser; ITRMC IT Enterprise [Security] Standards 3120, Network Intrusion Detection System and 3220, Virtual Private Network; and to adopt ITRMC IT Enterprise [Network Connectivity & Transport] Standards 3510, Transport; 3520, Local Area Network; 3530, Wireless LAN; 3540, LAN Backbone; and 3550, Structured Cabling, and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE / WORK GROUP UPDATE

Enterprise IT Security and Business Recovery Work Group

Work Group Chair Karl Kurtz, Department of Health and Welfare (H&W), provided an update. The second meeting of the Enterprise IT Security and Business Recovery Work Group (April 15th), chaired by Charlie Wright (H&W), included a presentation by Glenn Haar (State Tax Commission) on the STC’s Information Technology Emergency Response Mutual Aid Agreement with the Department of Correction. The group began to look at the development of a security policy. Security assessments of the ‘state of the state’ would continue to be done. Mr. Kurtz mentioned that the Work Group needed to continue to be mindful of the fact that e-government was moving toward 24/7 support. The group’s next meeting would be held early June 2002.

Discussion points:

- Steve Wilson noted that, at the appropriate time, it was hoped that discussion would be initiated with regard to the possibility of providing a state business recovery site for any agency.
- **J.D. Williams**, State Controller, mentioned that the Controller’s Office was in the midst of a disaster recovery exercise at that time.

***Enterprise E-Mail Service Work Group**

Work Group Chair Steve Wilson advised the Enterprise E-Mail Service Work Group, at its last meeting (April 17th), reviewed the issues developed at its first meeting, held February 14th. The 42 issues identified (placed in 8 categories) would need to be addressed if the state were to attempt to build an enterprise e-mail system. Major policy issues include: calendaring; public/personal folders; bandwidth; redundancy; integration of applications into e-mail systems (e.g. fax and voicemail capabilities); remote e-mail access; e-mail forwarding; records retention; public records policy; security (vulnerability, viruses, and other attacks); support; help desk training; and service. As part of the group’s first meeting, a **survey** (comprised of 11 questions) was developed and distributed to 60 state

agencies. As of April 17th, 36 responses had been received (a 60% return rate). A reminder was sent to agencies that did not respond. Some of the findings are summarized below:

- 2/3 of responding agencies were using Microsoft software, the current state standard
- Mailboxes being supported by responding agencies ranged from 6 to 35,000
- Many agencies were already integrating some applications into e-mail systems
- When asked if an enterprise e-mail system would work for the state, 7 responded yes, 16 responded no, and 13 other responses were 'yes and no' or 'maybe', based on scenario

Work Group members conducted a brainstorming session focused on what the ideal enterprise e-mail system would look like, given that all necessary resources were available. In theory, this process would address most, if not all, of the issues identified on February 14th. Once a representation was devised, the group would consider how realistic an enterprise e-mail system would be for the State of Idaho.

The Work Group also planned to identify and contact other states that had developed – or were in the process of developing – enterprise e-mail systems. Through this process, members hoped to gain knowledge of what others have experienced with this project.

*Note: On April 17, 2002, this group decided to drop the word 'shared' from its name, and will now be referred to as the ITRMC 'Enterprise E-Mail Service Work Group'.

Idaho Geospatial Committee (IGC)

On behalf the IGC, Committee Chair Liza Fox (Idaho Transportation Department) expressed sincere appreciation for the work of the STC, and to Cindy Lou McDonald for approaching the IGC with presentation of the STC Five-Year IT/GIS Plan. She advised the IGC supported the Plan, but it was clear the STC needed to work more closely with representatives of the Idaho Association of Counties, the Association of Idaho Cities, and the Idaho Planning Association before the Plan was carried forward.

At its April 4th meeting, the IGC voted unanimously to adopt **INSIDE (Interactive Numeric & Spatial Data Engine) Idaho** (located at the University of Idaho) as the official state geospatial data clearinghouse. It was hoped that State GIS Coordinator Nathan Bentley could find ways to encourage state agencies to fully participate in the program (participation was voluntary).

In response to a question from **Senator Bert Marley**, Ms. Fox explained that the IGC Cadastral and Geodetic Control Technical Working Group dealt with the value and location of public and private land ownership (parcels).

SATAD (Secure Access to Applications and Data) Work Group

According to Work Group Chair J.D. Williams, this process had been very interesting. The great deal of technological change taking place, as well as available services, to authenticate identity had become clear. This issue, along with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), was driving a lot of policy decisions, said Williams. He mentioned that the Department of Health and Welfare had been very helpful in putting things together, and would likely be the first major state users of digital signatures, when established.

Since September 2001:

- Lawyers became involved due to policy issues and various other considerations that arose.
- Dan Greenwood, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), was acting as a consultant to the group.
- On April 19, 2002, a request for information (RFI) was issued to vendors to learn of various authentication procedures and packages available. The RFI responses, which were to be submitted by May 17th, would be the basis for preparing a request for proposal (RFP) and, consequently, enter into an agreement(s) with a company(ies) to provide the service.
 - Mr. Williams acknowledged Mark Little, Division of Purchasing, for his instrumental role in the RFI process.

After meeting with David Temoshok, Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Manager, [federal] Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, Williams had the impression that the state was "on the right track". Also, Idaho could possibly receive an invitation to be the first state to participate in the revised FirstGov, the official U.S. government home page.

Steve Wilson thanked Mr. Williams for his leadership role and perseverance in this process.

BRIEF UPDATES

ITTP (Information Technology Training Program)

Jerry Settle (Division of Professional-Technical Education) advised Monti Pittman filled the position previously held by Cliff Green. Settle, however, had taken the lead on ITTP (the Information Technology Training Program).

Program background:

- Provides information technology training to all state employees
- Training was centralized to the ITTP Web site, <http://ittp.state.id.us/ittp/index.htm>, which allowed for easy access

Current status:

- A new on-line vendor, Elert & Associates (EA), was recently added. EA offers virtual classroom training, where students can actually talk with and see the instructor simultaneously, in real time.
- Due to lack of a funding source, ITTP was only recruiting classes on a case-by-case basis (as of January 2002), and would not be providing reimbursement for certification training costs.
 - It was hoped there would be future opportunities to replenish the ITTP account and continue co-opting.
- Vendors were still very supportive of and content with the program
- Enrollment would likely be down from in the past due, in part, to lack of funding. Also, as present employees were previously trained, the need was not as great. Yet, new employees could utilize this valuable resource.

Chairman Ahrens welcomed Settle, noting the ITTP was an important leveraging tool that helped state employees utilize new technologies through enterprise-wide training.

IDANET

John Olson, Division of Information Technology and Communication Services (DITCS) and IDANET Project Manager, advised there would most likely be an IDANET update Web site established by June 2002.

Status update:

- IDANET, Idaho's broadband digital telecommunications initiative, is broken into six regions
- Implementation of the first stage of IDANET, the turn-up of the backbone, was very near (by June 15, 2002)
- Status of bids associated with IDANET was given
- Regions were coming into place, as far as bids were concerned
- Testing of the backbone switches, tentatively won by Lucent, would be accomplished in May 2002

Chairman Ahrens recognized the Idaho Transportation Department as a leader in helping to move this effort forward. She also asked that Jerry Beck (Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, College of Southern Idaho) be contacted with regard to bandwidth capabilities in the Magic Valley, and that Gary Stivers (State Board of Education) be involved in this communication. (Beck brought forth a proposal for bandwidth capabilities near and in Jerome, Idaho.)

Purchasing Contracts (refer to handout: Statewide Contracts & Services)

Access Idaho

Scott Somerhalder, Access Idaho's General Manager, provided a brief update. Overall, the portal was on track.

- Access Idaho's Marketing team started off the month of March with articles in several industry association newsletters, such as the *Idaho Motor Transport Association*, the *Idaho Independent Insurance Agent Association*, *PCWorld.com*, and *Government Technology* magazine.
 - In partnership with the ITD, Access Idaho rolled out online 120-hour trip permits (available to subscribers of Access Idaho) and drivers license records (DLR) searches (available to independent insurance agents).
 - The Idaho State Tax Commission's online e-file program was held up as an example of how filing taxes online was cost effective for citizens and the government.
 - The State was recognized in different categories in the March issue of *Government Technology* magazine. Also in the March issue, the National Information Consortium (NIC), with its partners (including Access Idaho), published a full-page advertisement. (NIC is the parent company of Access Idaho.)
 - Chairman Ahrens mentioned that Access Idaho was very helpful in getting the State a fairly major article in the June 2002 issue of *Government Technology*.
- The portal helped develop faxes to assist the Secretary of State's (SOS) office in encouraging the purchase and use of online Certificates of Existence.
- The SOS's office and the portal worked together to integrate Access Idaho's billing system into the SOS's internally developed UCC (Uniform Commercial Code) Liens filing application.
- The Department of Correction went into beta testing of its online offender database built by the portal.
 - Citizens can search for the status of an offender by name or inmate number.
- Access Idaho continued interviewing students for the Access Idaho awards program. Those involved in the review of student nominations were ITRMC Chairman Pam Ahrens, Representative Debbie Field, Pat Sewell (president of a local technology company), and Shaw Merrill (reporter, KBCI).
- The portal was working with the State Tax Commission (STC) on building an International Fuel Tax Association, Inc. (IFTA Inc.) tax filing application. This application would also impact the Idaho Transportation Department.
- The Board of Occupational Licenses and Access Idaho started outlining a project – the development of an application for multiple license renewals.
- NIC was looking into Interactive Voice Recognition (IVR) solutions for the STC.
- Electronic check capability, which provides a large cost-savings to State agencies (compared to credit cards), had been working very well for the Idaho Department of Labor.

ITRMC Staff

Intermountain GIS Users Conference

Nathan Bentley spoke of the Intermountain GIS Users Conference (April 9-13, Big Sky, Montana), which was attended by himself and Senator Bunderson. Many attendees were excited about Senator Bunderson's interest in GIS. Issues addressed at the Conference include:

- The need for GIS to be considered a critical infrastructure data set
- Though few federal dollars were designed for GIS, there were federal programs in which GIS avenues could easily become a major part of, particularly emergency response

GIS Center Research

In his research, Mr. Bentley had learned that Utah, Montana, Washington, and Oregon had all adopted a centralized location ultimately responsible for framework data (the commonly needed data themes that are developed, maintained, and integrated by public and private organizations within a geographic area, typically statewide). He noted that, if such a designation were made, Idaho would be in a position to apply for federal grants related to GIS. Bentley then noted that the National Governors' Association had selected eight states to receive tailored assistance to improve homeland security and bioterrorism preparedness plans; of these states, four had developed a GIS center. His next step would be to determine if state agencies were in support of the establishment of a state GIS center.

National Assoc. for Telecommunications Technology Professionals in State Govt. (NASTD) 2002 Western Region Meeting
Don Fournier acted as Idaho's delegate at the NASTD 2002 Western Region Meeting, held April 13-17 in Seattle, Washington. Per Fournier, the conference focused on homeland security and its impact on telecommunications infrastructure; and the telecommunications industry as a whole and challenges within. Other representatives of different western states had issues similar to Idaho's concerns with broadband digital telecommunications. In talking with these representatives, Fournier determined that, with IDANET, Idaho was very much in line with what other states were doing in this area.

- During the Western Region Business meeting, the State of Idaho was selected as the location for the 2003 NASTD Western Region Meeting. Joe Roche, Dodie Linder, and Cheryl Dearborn (DITCS) were acknowledged for their efforts in enabling Idaho to host the 2003 conference, which would be arranged at almost no cost to the State.

2002 Digital Government Boot Camp

Rich Elwood provided an update. Over \$8,000 in sponsorship had been secured for the program. The ITRMC Staff was in the process of preparing the first promotional publication – a postcard to be distributed to more than 2,000 recipients. Upon approval of agenda topics, the Staff would seek out program speakers.

Agency IT Plans/Projects Report

As requested by Senator Bunderson (February 20, 2002 ITRMC meeting), Mr. Elwood provided a report (log) of agency IT plans, major IT project summaries, and business recovery plans received by the ITRMC Staff for review.

December 11, 2002 Program

Chairman Ahrens advised the Council of an educational program, offered by *Government Technology* magazine, being negotiated. The half-day conference would feature national speakers, and would coincide with ITRMC's December meeting.

Enterprise Architecture: A Blueprint for Better Government

A portion of a NASCIO-produced video (presented at this year's NASCIO annual mid-year conference) was shown. Per Elwood, the video illustrates where the State of Idaho and the ITRMC were going in terms of how enterprise IT was being managed.

NEW BUSINESS / ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ahrens invited the group to an award ceremony to take place at 10 a.m. on April 30, 2002, in the East Conference Room of the Joe R. Williams Building. The Council of State Governments would be presenting an Innovations Award to the Idaho Small Business Solutions Web site (www.idahobizhelp.org). The Web site was developed by the RIB (Reducing Idaho's Bureaucracy) Committee, in collaboration with the Idaho Small Business Development Center (ISBDC) hosted at Boise State University.

As there was no other new business to come before the Council, Ahrens thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting of the ITRMC would be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2002 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the East Conference Room, JRW Building. Subsequent meetings would be held on August 21, October 8 (Digital Government Boot Camp), and December 11.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Gales
ITRMC Assistant